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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/538,605	06/10/2005	Ling Wang	PHUS020573	5405
24737 7590 10/03/2008 PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510				
EXAMINER				
A. MINH D				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2821				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
10/03/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/538,605

Applicant(s)

WANG ET AL.

Examiner

MINH D. A

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8 and 10-16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/10/05
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the Applicants' filing on 06/10/2005. In virtue of this filing, claims 1-16 are currently presented in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamson (U.S Patent No: 6, 400, 103) in view of Marsden et al (U.S Patent No: 2002/0173321).

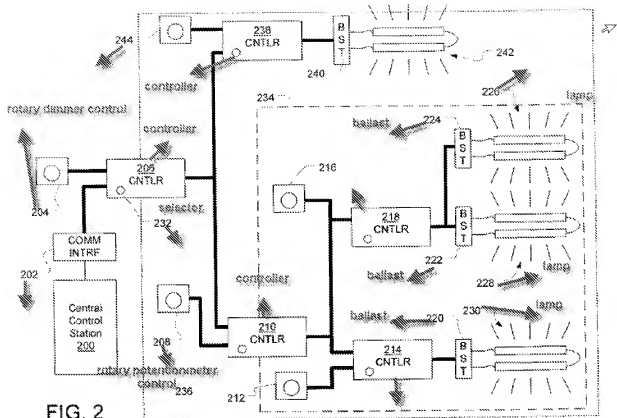


FIG. 2

Regarding claim 1, Marsden et al disclose in figure 2 that, a lighting control network recovery system for a wireless network of lighting elements, comprising: a plurality of ballasts each of said plurality of ballasts(220,222,224) being configured both as a slave element (CNTLR(218)) and a network master control unit (CNTR(210)); one of said plurality of ballasts(220, 222, 224) configured as a network master control unit (210) to control each of said plurality of ballasts(220,222, 224) as a slave element(218). Col. 7, lines 43-57.

Marden et al do not disclose wherein, when a network master control unit no longer functions, one of said plurality of ballasts configured as a replacement network

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master control unit takes its place by becoming a new network master control unit and taking control of the lighting control network (because each network master control unit and each ballasts are required to have a different address for configuring data from the each master control unit and ballasts and installation or replace the master slave).

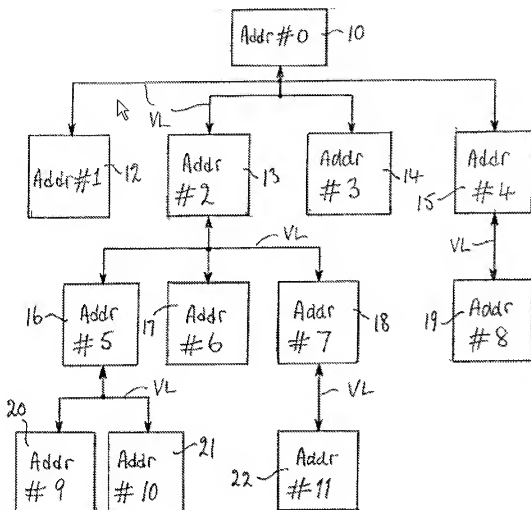


Fig. 1

Marsden et al disclose in figure 1 above that, wireless master-slave distributed communication network for control the lighting street comprising a master slave (10) has an address#0 and the slave nodes (12-22) have address #(2-12). Paragraph [0019], lines 1-11 and each slave node has a unique address, installation and in order to enable the network to change dynamically to take in account slave nodes such as street lamps, joining or leaving the network as shown in paragraph [0025] to paragraph [0027].

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to employ the wireless master-slave distributed communication network disclosed in the wireless network of Marsden et al in the network-able power controller of Adamson to achieve the claimed invention. As disclosed in the wireless network of Marsden et al, the motivation for the combination would be to obtain the flexible installation and configuration.

Regarding claim 9, Marsden et al disclose in figure 2 that, a lighting control network recovery system for a wireless network of lighting elements, comprising: a plurality of ballasts each of said plurality of ballasts(220,222,224) being configured both as a slave element (CNTLR(218)) and a network master control unit (CNTR(210)); one of said plurality of ballasts(220, 222, 224) configured as a network master control unit (210) to control each of said plurality of ballasts(220,222, 224) as a slave element(218). Col. 7, lines 43-57.

Marden et al do not disclose when the network master control unit no longer functions, replacing the network master control unit with one of said plurality of provided

ballasts configured as a replacement network master control unit; and communicating with each slave element to become a new network master control unit and take control of the lighting control network by the replacement network master control unit(**because each network master control unit and each ballasts are required to have a different address for replacing/configuring/installing the master control unit or ballasts**).

Marsden et al disclose in figure 1 above that, wireless master-slave distributed communication network for control the lighting street comprising a master slave (10) has an address#0 and the slave nodes (12-22) have address #(2-12). Paragraph [0019], lines 1-11 and each slave node has a unique address, **installation and in order** to enable the network **to change** dynamically to take in account slave nodes such as street lamps, joining or leaving the network as shown in paragraph [0025] to paragraph [0027].

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to employ the wireless master-slave distributed communication network disclosed in the wireless network of Marsden et al in the network-able power controller of Adamson to achieve the claimed invention. As disclosed in the wireless network of Marsden et al, the motivation for the combination would be to obtain the flexible installation and configuration and replacement.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Prior art does not teach that, at least one remote control unit having a plurality of keys; and at least one main power line having said ballasts connected thereto such that: the one of said ballasts that is configured as a network master control unit is adapted to setup the network configuration of the lighting control network on power-up reset by recording the registration of each slave element and the association of each slave element with at least one key of the at least one remote control and to control said lighting control network thereafter, and each of said plurality of ballasts, other than said network master control unit, that is configured as a slave element is adapted to join a lighting control network on power-up reset by registering with the network master control unit and associating with at least one of said plurality of keys of said at least one remote control unit recited in dependent claim 2(claims 3-10 would be objected since they are dependent claim 2).

Prior art does not teach that, the steps of: providing at least one remote control unit having a plurality of keys; providing at least one main power line having said ballasts connected thereto; on power-up reset performing the steps of: setting up the network configuration of the lighting control network by the network master control unit, by performing the sub-steps of registering each said slave element

with the network master, and associating each registered slave element with one of said plurality of keys of said at least one remote control unit; and controlling the lighting control network by the network master control unit recited in dependent claim 10 (claims 10-16 would be objected since they are dependent claim 10).

Citation of relevant prior art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art Hosemann (U.S. Patent No. 6,160,795) discloses Network communication.

Prior art Giannopoulos et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,093) discloses modular master-slave power supply controller.

Prior art Pedretti (U.S. Patent No. 5,681,942) discloses a device for optimized management of fluorescent lamps.

Prior art Katyl et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,838, 116) discloses an fluorescent light ballast with information transmission circuitry.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh Dieu A whose telephone number is (571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 AM-2: 45 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens Douglas W can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The

fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner Minh A

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Date 9/28/08

/Douglas W Owens/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2821
September 30, 2008